



June 22, 2005

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Tax Payers Association Attacks 911 Funding

By Doug Chandler

After receiving a great deal of pressure from the [Utah Tax Payers Association](#), the State Legislature is investigating the possibility of no longer funding 911 services with fees on your phone bills. As I understand the complaint, the Association feels that 911 and other government-provided services should be funded directly by general tax funds. This strikes me as another misguided attempt to come the aid of the 'over-burdened tax-payer' by oversimplifying a serious and complex problem -with probable disastrous results.



Many counties and their associated 911 dispatch centers simply don't have the tax base to provide life-saving 911 emergency response services. We recently approved funding that will allow Daggett County 911 calls to actually make it to a dispatch center. This is funding that the county itself simply could not be expected to collect from its small population. If you live in Salt Lake, you might think it doesn't really matter if people in Daggett County have enhanced 911 in their area, but you'd quickly change your mind if one of your kids were involved in a boating accident on the Flaming Gorge. The availability of 911 services is a ubiquitous issue that potentially affects all of us.

The State 911 Committee was formed after years of research, education, and painstaking investigation of alternatives. It would be tragic to abandon all that has been accomplished -and all that has yet to be accomplished, by bowing to the pressure of well-meaning but uneducated pressure groups who don't understand the impact of the changes they are trying to make.

Communications Site Design

By Boyd Webb, Strategic Network Planner

With all the talk about the development of several new communications sites this summer we should review the process of site development and hopefully answer a few questions. The ITS Wireless Services Group (Radio Shop) manages many communications sites statewide. Most of the existing sites are on land owned by State Lands, or the Federal Government. The US Forest Service and BLM impose specific land use rules upon communications site owners, such as acceptable exterior colors, the disruption of natural vegetation, and security lighting.

While each new site has specific requirements, the development of a communications site generally requires the following:

1. Identify a Need. Who will benefit from the new site?



Barney Top

2. Determine partnership opportunities.
3. Identify a strategic site location(s).
4. Complete an RF propagation study from the proposed location.
5. Prepare location documentation. maps, land ownership, etc.
6. Determine building, tower, and electrical power requirements.
7. Identify potential funding sources.
8. Develop and submit a business plan.

If the business plan is approved, additional information will be required in order to complete the bid for the purchase of infrastructure and site construction:

1. Soil engineering report. Contractors need this information in their bid preparation.
2. Preparation and acceptance of an amendment to the leased right of way.
3. MOU, or written contract, between invested parties.

ITS Wireless Planners are available to assist in the design and development of new communications sites. For additional Information please contact:

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Logan Peak

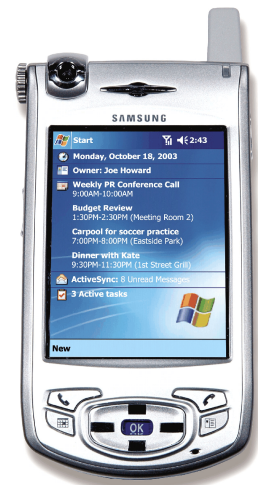
Windows 2005 for PDA's

By Doug Chandler

If you have a PDA that uses the Microsoft Mobile OS, you'll be interested to know that the new Windows 2005 for PDA's is coming out this fall. I use the Samsung I-700 (pictured at right). Not caring for the nifty built in typewriter-keypads that are so tiny I can't hit any less than three buttons at once, I opted for the larger screen area. No regrets. I find I use the PDA far more for reviewing information than for entering it. The viewing area is also very conducive to using the web.

The new Windows 2005 OS (formerly code-named Magneto), will offer the ability to 'landscape' the screen. This means I can turn and operate the screen at a 90 degree angle. Scrolling extremely thin columns of text has always been a pain.

The new OS has dozens of other features that will make Microsoft PDA's more viable and competitive.



Calendar

UWIN Technology Steering Committee

Friday June 24, 2005

10:00am - Noon

Wasatch County Search and Rescue

1361 South Highway 41 (Just past Arby's)

Phone Bridge 1-877-581-9247

Participant Code: 604370

UCAN Meeting

July 19, 2005
2:00 - 4:00 pm
VECC
5360 South 5885 West
Salt Lake City

911 Committee

Thursday July 21, 2005
10:00am - Noon
Rampton Complex
4501 South 2700 West
UHP Large Conference Room

Utah Sheriff's Association 10th Annual Conference and Exposition

St. George Dixie Center
September 11-13
[Conference Link](#)

Editor

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